Indo-Polish joint ventures in third countries

799. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up joint ventures in the third countries in collaboration with Poland;

(b) if so, whether the agreement has been made between both the countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the joint ventures proposed to be set up by India and Poland in the third countries?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government does not presently have any specific proposals to set up JVs in third countries in collaboration with Poland. No formal agreement has been signed in this regard. However, during the fifth meeting of the Indo-Polish JBC in Warsaw on October 7, 1993 it was decided to promote JVs both in India and Poland and also for cooperation in third countries i.e. countries other than Poland and India.

Export of Cement

800. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of cement so far exported from India during 1994-95 as compared to the years 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) what are the names of such parties who are engaged in export/import indicating the price fixed therefor, terms and conditions laid down and whether any action has been taken against the defaulting companies; and

(c) whether it is a fact that cement is being exported to Pakistan and if so, the quantity exported till date and whether any conditions have been laid down for exporting cement to that country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The total quantity of cement including clinker exported during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and the period April-May, 1994-95 is given below:—

(Quantity in million tonnes)

1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (April-May) (Estt.)
1.18	2.85	0.23

(b) Export of cement is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL); as per current Export-Import Policy. Import of cement is not allowed. Names of the major exporters of cement are as under:—

(1) The Associated Cement Co. Ltd., Bombay.

(2) Birla Jute and Industries Ltd., Calcutta.

(3) Cement Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi.

(4) Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd., Distt. Trichy.

(5) Indian Rayon and Industries Ltd., Calcutta.

(6) Madras Cement Ltd., Madras.

(7) Raasi Cement Ltd., Secunderabad.

(8) Gujarat Ambhuja Cements Ltd., Bombay.

(9) The India Cement Ltd., Madras.

(10) Shree Digvijay Cement Co. Ltd., Bombay.

(c) Yes, Sir. A quantity of 0.9 lakh tonnes of cement has exported to Pakistan in 1993-94 and 0.45 lakh tonnes during the period April-June, 1994-95. The terms and conditions of such exports are as per contract signed between the exporters and importers.

Total quantity of edible/non-edible Oil Imported

801. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of the Edible and Non-Edible Oil imported so far: during 1994-95 as compared to 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) what procedure was adopted in awarding contracts to parties for imports/exports; indicating their names, terms of conditions rates agreed to etc.; and

(c) whether all the parties concerned fulfilled the commitments and if not, the names of defaulting companies and action taken against them so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revival of EOU Scheme

802. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following the persistent complaints regarding EOU scheme from 100 per cent Export-oriented units and those located in the export processing zones, Government have decided to review the scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Scheme of EOU was introduced in early 1981 and the scheme is being reviewed regularly through interaction with the units to resolve problems of individual units and also to effect further improvements;

(c) if so, what are the main points that are being revived;

(d) if so to what extent the revival of the scheme has fully met the demands of the Export-oriented units; and

(e) whether Government have now urged the Export Oriented Units to improve the performance of their units?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) The working of Export Oriented Unit and Export Processing Zone Schemes is under constant review and improvements sought to be brought about on the basis of feed back from the trade and industry. Certain changes recently effected include rationalisation of duty structure on domestic disposal of finished products/waste and scrap, higher access to the local market and flexible value addition norms for electronic products, liberalised debonding formalities and simplification of customs procedures. Areas of activity in EPZs have also been broadened to include trading, re-export after repacking/labelling repairs, reconditioning and re-engineering.

Tobacco Board unable to protect Tobacco Growers' Interest

803. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tobacco-growers are anxious about the inability of Tobacoo Board to protect their interests, especially in tribal areas;